

Application No. 10/606,853
Amendment dated October 12, 2004
Reply to Office action of April 13, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 Claim 1 (currently amended). A ~~multi component~~ field mixable, binary, liquid
2 explosive ~~comprising~~ consisting of:
3 (a) a non-explosive solid component including aluminum powder containing
4 stearic acid; and
5 (b) a non-cap sensitive liquid component including nitromethane;
6 whereby said solid and liquid components can be combined and mixed together
7 in the field to produce a cap sensitive explosive.

- 1 Claim 2 (previously presented). The explosive of claim 1 in which said aluminum
2 powder has an average particle size of 5 to 50 microns and a surface area of 0.5 to 2
3 square meters per cubic centimeter, and contains 0.1 to 5% stearic acid by weight.

- 1 Claim 3 (previously presented). The explosive of claim 1 in which said aluminum
2 powder and said nitromethane are mixed in the ratio of about 1 to 1.2 ounces of said
3 aluminum powder to about 6 ounces of said nitromethane, by weight.

Claims 4-15, (canceled).

1 Claim 16 (currently amended). A method of making a ~~multi-component~~ field
2 mixable, binary, liquid explosive comprising consisting of the steps of:
3 (a) providing a non-explosive solid component including a quantity of aluminum
4 powder containing stearic acid;
5 (b) providing a non-cap sensitive liquid component including a quantity of
6 nitromethane; and
7 (c) combining and mixing said solid component a portion of said quantity of said
8 aluminum powder with said liquid component in the field to produce a cap sensitive
9 explosive a portion of said quantity of said nitromethane.

1 Claim 17 (currently amended). The method of claim 16 in which said aluminum
2 powder has an average particle size of 5 to 50 microns and a surface area of [[0.5]] 0.5
3 to 2 square meters per cubic centimeter, and contains 0.1 to 5% stearic acid by weight.

1 Claim 18 (previously presented). The method of claim 16 in which said aluminum
2 powder and said nitromethane are mixed in the ratio of about 1 to 1.2 ounces of said
3 aluminum powder to about 6 ounces of said nitromethane, by weight.

Claims 19-24, (canceled).